



7-26-01

Express Mail No.: EL 501 640 834 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Morré and Morré

Application No.: 09/536,551

Filed: March 28, 2000

For: METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING
AGENTS THAT INHIBIT SERUM
AGING FACTORS AND USES AND
COMPOSITIONS THEREOF

Group Art Unit: 1647

Examiner: Wells, L.

Attorney Docket No.: 8951-124-999

RECEIVED

JUL 31 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action dated May 2, 2001, in which the Examiner imposed a restriction requirement, please consider the following remarks. Applicant submits concurrently herewith a Petition For Extension of Time for two months up to and including August 2, 2001.

The Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to one of the following groups:

- Group I: Claims 1 to 11 and 25 to 52, drawn to a method of preventing disorders by administering a pharmaceutical, classified in class 514, subclass 690.
- Group II: Claims 12 to 24, drawn towards methods of screening compounds, classified in class 435, subclass 4.
- Group III: Claims 53 and 54, drawn to a pharmaceutical composition, classified in class 424, subclass 451.

The Examiner contends that each of Groups I, II, and III are distinct from the other Groups.

Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group II, claims 12 to 24, drawn towards methods of screening compounds. Applicants fully reserve their rights to prosecute the subject matter of the non-elected claims in a subsequent divisional application.

Applicants previously filed an Information Disclosure Statement with this Office on July 27, 2000 and a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement on March 21, 2001. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that substantive examination of the present application be made at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Date July 25, 2001

Laura A. Coruzzi 30,742
Laura A. Coruzzi (Reg. No.)

By: Maria E. Pasquale 38,265
Maria E. Pasquale (Reg. No.)

PENNIE & EDMONDS LLP
1155 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036-2711
(212) 790-9090